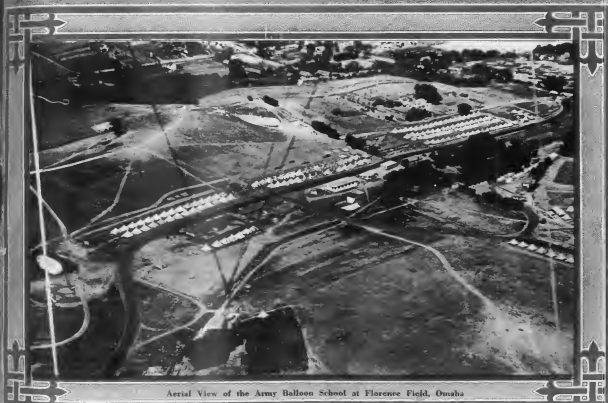


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VOLUME VI
Number 4

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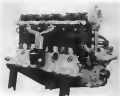
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54. VI

March 1997

Page 4

THE achievement which promises to offer the greatest immediate glory in the field of aeronautics, and which will perhaps be considered by future generations as the supreme accomplishment of aerial navigation, is the transatlantic flight. The nation which will succeed in first effecting this great flight, that is, to the constructor of the aircraft and to the crew, there will come a lasting credit. No wonder then, that the prospect of achieving this feat should excite the ambition of every a manufacturer and pilot; what else, this problem has actually outgrown the limits of private enterprise, for two governments at least, the American and British, are officially championing the transatlantic duel.

The project which has the approval of our own government consists in crossing the Atlantic by multi-engine flying boats, either via the direct route to Iceland, or else by way of the Azores. The Navy Department has placed Lt.-Comdr. John H. Towers, U. S. N., in charge of the organization for the transatlantic flight, and work is actively proceeding on a fleet of huge airplanes of the NC-class with a view of putting them in shape for the great venture. Lieutenant-Commander Towers is one of the three naval aviators who were detailed to flying duty in 1911, when the extraordinary air establishment consisted but of three land-based airplanes which had been purchased with the initial appropriation of \$25,000. His appointment to this important post is indicative of the high esteem the Secretary of the Navy has for the professional skill of the officer who has consistently been connected with air work for the last eight years. The chance again offers itself for the service of the Navy's transatlantic flight crew.

A similar enterprise is now underway in Great Britain, where several huge naval flying boats are being prepared for the great venture. These machines are development of the Ameron, for four-engine of the mid-or two-engine flying boats, in which Lieutenant Peter, B. N., intended to cross the Atlantic in 1934 by way of the Azores, when the outbreak of the Great War stopped the project. The British transatlantic flying boats are similar in size and power to any one NC class boat except that they are triplanes and are fitted with five engines.

A very important point in connection with the trade

Atlantic flight, which holds in store the promise that the ocean will be crossed by heavier-than-air craft from this side before it will from Europe, is that the prevailing westerly blow in the northern Atlantic from a western quarter. This applies only to the direct route to Ireland, but on this region the winds are powerful enough to greatly accelerate the progress of an eastward-bound airplane. On the Southern route, which leads through a considerable area of dead calm, only light winds are encountered, and these blow in general from an eastern or north-eastern quarter. Thus, on the face of the problem, the direct route has more inherent assets—except its greater length—than the Southern route.

The British official project, which is being worked out by the Admiralty, plans battle on sea-surface also as a strike for cruising, into the Atlantic. This seems to add much to view of the astero-ecological conditions the westward route involves. The British vessel to use, two or perhaps three rapid armships of the largest size for this purpose, two of these vessels, which have already made their trial flights, are credited with a cruising radius of 8,000 miles, which is more than amply sufficient for the purposes in view. It is believed that their armships will steer the Southern course, by way of Portugal, the Azores and the West Indies, where favorable winds may be met and where strong adverse wind currents are virtually out of the question.

The contest for the first place is the record of transatlantic flight that becomes a race between all the professional skill and resources the world's two biggest navies can muster, with the United States championing the invention of its sons, the Wright brothers, while Great Britain divides its favours between seaplanes and airships.

It is furthermore possible that France and Italy, too, will enter this great contest, for several airplane manufacturers of both countries have at various times been requested as leading machines for the transatlantic flight. Whatever the outcome of the race, it is certain that the aircraft based on the experience gathered during the war have reached that point of perfection where the crossing of the Atlantic may be looked forward to as a practical certainty during the next few months. When this momentous event will have been achieved, it will mark the beginning before long of transatlantic air travel.

THE firm foundation of bearing performance—chrome alloy steel.

The remarkable processes developed by this Company would amount to nothing, were they not based on a superior metal, peculiarly adapted.

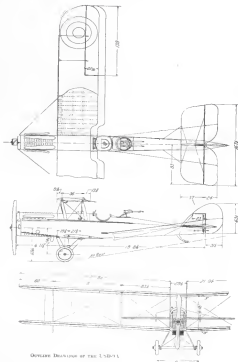
Years of experience have shown that only chrome alloy steel has the tough, resilient and lasting qualities necessary to uphold the New Departure reputation for strength, stamina and serviceability.

THE NEW DEPARTURE MANUFACTURING COMPANY
Brid, Connecticut 127 Detroit, Michigan

New Departure Ball Bearings



March 15, 1918



GOVERNMENT DRAWING OF THE U.S.D.-9A

March 15, 1918

runner longitudinally and a paper-rose with transverse grain, and $\frac{1}{16}$ in. thick. Drawing to the size of the runner when very little were known as compared to the new design.

Wing Structure

The wing section employed on the U.S.D.-9A is a development of the HAP-15 type, but made slightly deeper at the apex,



THREE-QUARTER REAR VIEW OF THE U.S.D.-9A

and with the center section reduced. The wings are built up in conventional manner with two solid spars of spruce, riveted out between compression ribs. The total span is 4 in. deep by 24 in. wide, the upper spar is 3 11/16 in. deep by 3 1/2 in. wide. The spars are splined at mid-length with a 18 to 1 plate scarf spline with seven inch dovetail staggered, rigid

cooking surface is 41 sq. ft. It weighs 24 lb. empty and has a capacity of 13 lb. of water.

Gasoline System

A special gasoline system developed at McCook Field is used on the U.S.D.-9A. The main supply tank has a capacity of 134 gal. and is fed to the carburetor by means of two Van Nostrand 1000 pump, driven from the crankshaft by flexible shafting; and an 8-gal. gravity tank, located in the center section of the upper wing span.

While the U.S.D.-9A has been designed for the purpose of taking the seat of a convertible two-seater fighter, reconnaissance and day bomber machine of high performance, the airplane is also applicable to the demands of aerial transportation. The British manufacturer of this airplane, the D.H.-9A, has actually been fitted with passenger accommodations, as can be seen in one of the accompanying illustrations, and is being employed in the so-called Condor Mail service, which carries important passengers and personnel between London, Paris and back.



PASSENGER COMPARTMENT OF A D.H.-9A, WHICH HAS BEEN CONVERTED FOR USE AS A MAIL CARRIER

Engine

The engine is of a familiar type of construction, single strength and light weight and also for no special reason.

Undercarriage

The undercarriage consists of two pairs of solid spars of structural section supporting a streamline axle through rubber shock absorbers of the usual design. The wheel travel is 8 in. Standard 64 spoke wire wheels are used, covered with rubber tires and carrying 700 lb. 125 mm. air pressure tires. It has a complete weight of 148 lb.

Cooling System

A nose radiator is fitted with a core of the special honeycomb type, with a frontal area of 5.34 sq. ft., and a total cooling surface of 198.0 sq. ft. The weight of the nose radiator is 55 lb. and it carries 65 lb. of water. Running entirely around the outside of the nose radiator core and its upper and lower sections is a separate nonconductor in white paint of the same depth as the nose which acts as an evaporative chamber for the cooling system. A set of horizontal aluminum shutters is mounted across the front of the nose radiator. These are actuated by a lever connected by the pulley by means of a double Bowden wire control and a small control lever, mounted on the right side of the cockpit.

AVIATION

285

Mounted in a vertical duct to the rear of the engine and communicating to the body is an adjustable honeycomb radiator, which is connected in series with the nose unit. The secondary radiator may be lowered to project 9 1/2 in. below the bottom of the body or raised up to the body and only the edge of the lower tank is exposed. The overall dimensions of the section are 24 1/2 in. width by 12 1/2 in. height with a nose thickness of 4 in. The effective frontal area is 1.59 sq. ft. and the total

British Air Force Strength

According to a report made public in London, on August, 1914 the British naval and military air services together numbered only 380 officers and 1800 men of other ranks. In November, 1915, there were 56,000 officers and 254,000 men. At the outbreak of the war there had been 105 airplanes, forty-five airplanes and seven aerobics, while at the close of hostilities there had 22,000 airplanes, 1200 aerobics, and 280 airplanes. Besides this, there were 20,000 airplanes and six planes being built and 55,000 airplane engines under contract. The Women's Royal Air Force, which was not in existence in 1914 numbered at the close of hostilities 23,000.

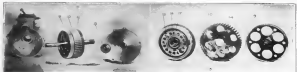
Characteristics of American Aircraft Engines

[illegible]

Year Income Data

[illegible]

most of the "control" (the operating mechanism) of the "plant" Part 1 is a plant which can be controlled and containing accessories to be driven by the contribution of the "control" electric generator, machine gun, submachine gun, etc. Part 1 connects directly with the "control" being based in it.



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First Regular Commercial Air Service

will be maintained by

THE MARTIN AERIAL FREIGHTER AND TWELVE PASSENGER AIRPLANE. Four of these twin-engined planes have been ordered by The Apache Aerial Transport Company and are now under construction at the Martin plant. They will maintain an hourly service in both directions between Los Angeles and San Diego, California.

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CONTRACTORS TO

U. S. GOVERNMENT

Development of the American Airship Industry

By Ladislav d'Orey

When the United States entered the Great War there was no American airship industry as being. However, in the spring of 1917 the Bureau of Construction and Repair of the Navy Department started operations and asked for bids on seven small airships of the so-called Mory type, which was a British

airship. These, the capacity of the Morys, and the orders, awarded since are now being filled by American manufacturers, as appears from the appended table.

It is noteworthy, that while the Navy was declining for Morys, prepared by Naval Constructor J. S. Henson, was

Characteristics of American Naval Airships

Serial No.	Year	Manufacturer	MT's Type	Naval Constructor	Capacity (cu ft.)	Length (ft.)	Width (ft.)	Height (ft.)	Total Weight (lb.)	No. and Type of Engines	No. of Passengers	Top Speed (m.p.h.)	End Speed (m.p.h.)	End Speed (m.p.h.)	End Speed (m.p.h.)	End Speed (m.p.h.)
Two-Engine Gas-Filled Airships																
1	1918	Goodyear	T-5	D	180,000	195	44	54	250	2 Curtiss O-5	2	4	60	12	1,800	8,000
2	1918	Goodyear	C	D	180,000	195	44	54	250	2 Curtiss O-5	2	4	60	12	1,800	8,000
3	1918-19	Goodyear	T-5	C	120,000	190	40	54	200	2 Curtiss O-5	2	4	60	12	1,800	8,000
4	1918-19	Goodyear	B	C	170,000	190	44	54	300	2 Curtiss O-5	2	4	60	12	1,800	8,000
Single-Engine Submarine Bases																
1	1918	Goodyear	PC	F	55,000	162	34	45	135	1 Curtiss O-5	1	3	50	12	500	1,800
2	1918	Goodyear	FB	E	95,000	184	41	45	190	1 Curtiss O-5	1	3	50	12	500	1,800
3	1918	Goodyear	FA	B	84,000	165	31	45	180	1 Curtiss O-5	1	3	40	14	500	1,800
4	1917	Goodyear	F	B	77,000	160	41	45	100	1 Curtiss O-5	1	2	40	14	500	1,800
5	1917-18	Goodyear	A	B	60,000	167	45	50	100	1 Curtiss O-5	1	2	40	14	500	1,800
6	1917	Consolidated Aircraft Co.	B	B	77,000	160	41	45	100	1 Curtiss O-5	1	2	40	14	500	1,800

was developed. Orders were subsequently awarded in several firms who have had previous—though little—experience in airship construction, and eventually, with the experience gained on general requirements, American manufacturers are able to produce a satisfactory type of airship for naval service.

The first type of airship is essentially a gas bag to which is attached the body of a tractor or power airplane, complete with its engine and controls. While these could have given a satisfactory service under the hands of their pilots, the Navy Department decided last year that a much larger and more powerful type was desirable for the purpose of efficiently carrying out coast patrol work. Consequently specifications and bids were issued for a number of two-engine airships having

based on the best available foreign designs, American airship manufacturers soon succeeded in greatly improving these plans, developing thereby a distinctly national product. The rating of the new to the service came in for particular attention in the minds of the staff, with the result that the heavy hulls, a well-stick universal passenger carried from the Bureau of Aeronautics, was advantageously replaced by the direct or push type of engine. The Goodyear, the Navy and Henson Co. did not agree with it in the matter, for their design made rigidly effected disposal of the theory that the direct engine developed under load stress upon the Indian feature.

Latterly the B. Henson Co., who had built their Morys to half-hull design, further explained the failure of 50

airships in developing the so-called B. Henson type, which will be entirely new to the two-engine naval airships. Since the successful discovery, by American designers, of a new way to build a more efficient gas bag, can be produced a gas bag and a comparatively low cost, and the Navy is, however, no longer the sole user of airships, for the Army, fully realizing the great value of lighter gas bags for certain purposes, has recently started upon a program of its own. The Goodyear and Airship Division of the Air Service, which is a branch of Col. J. P. Henson, U. S. A., has lately placed orders for half a dozen and eight airships of about 20,000 cu ft. capacity, which it is intended to use for research work in connection with coast fortifications as well as for patrol service.

Not only the commercial possibilities of large airships—which have been repeatedly pointed out in these columns—are involved by American manufacturers. At the Aeronautical Exposition,

in New York, the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Co. exhibited a single model of the passenger car of a semi-rigid, semi-rigid airship which is to be 400 ft. long, 65 ft. in diameter, and have a capacity of 700,000 cu ft. The power plant is to consist of two 600 hp engines, and the endurance of the airship is estimated to be 100 miles at 10 mph. Accommodations are to be provided for twenty-four passengers.

At the same show the Consolidated Aircraft Corp. exhibited a single model of a 250,000 cu ft. passenger airship of the semi-rigid type, with half-hull design, fitted with two engines totaling 400 hp, and providing accommodations for twenty passengers. The full speed of this airship is to be 40 mph.

Everyone, it may be said, that American manufacturers of lighter-than-air craft are fully aware of the great possibilities the recent developments in airship construction offer for long distance passenger service, and increasing developments in this field may be looked forward to in the near future.

The Goodrich Naval Airship A-247

The Goodrich naval airship A-247, which is illustrated herewith, was presented to the 18th Aeronautical Exposition, during the Aeronautical Exposition, was built in July and August, 1917, at the Goodrich Factory, in Akron, and was accepted by the

with a Curtiss O-5N-2 engine, developing 180 hp, which drives the propeller at a speed of 15 m.p.h. The rest of the outline with hydrogen is about 34,200. Airships of this type, which were built after the specifications of the Bureau of Construction and



GOODRICH NAVAL AIRSHIP AT THE AERONAUTICAL EXPOSITION

Navy after a series of tests conducted under cover of darkness on Lake Superior, on Sept. 11, 1917.

Although the average life of an airship of this type is estimated at 100 days to 150 days, the A-247 remained in active service until Feb. 15, 1918, when the Navy authorized her hull to be given the public a close-up view of the type of airship which played such a notable role in the covering of American ships through the submarine-infested waters of the Atlantic.

The A-247 has a capacity of about 34,000 cu ft., and is fitted

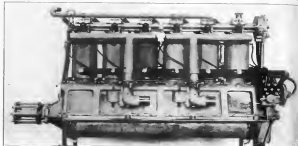
with a Curtiss O-5N-2 engine, developing 180 hp, which drives the propeller at a speed of 15 m.p.h. The rest of the outline with hydrogen is about 34,200. Airships of this type, which were built after the specifications of the Bureau of Construction and

The B. F. Goodyear Co. during the war has built seven airships of this type for the United States Navy, under contracts of 1917 and 1918, and has also built two for the Navy to look the Army and the Navy.

Since the armistice was signed, this firm was awarded by the Navy Department an order for more two-engine naval patrol

The 125 Hp. Union Aircraft Engine

The 125 hp. Union aircraft engine is the product of the Union Gas Engine Co., of Oakland, Cal. It is of the vertical 6-cyl. water-cooled type, with valves in the head, and develops its rated horsepower at 1,400 r.p.m. The weight of the engine complete with two carburetors, two magneto, pumps and



INTAKE SIDE OF THE 125 HP. UNION ENGINE

water pump, is 465 lb., which gives a weight of 3.96 lb. per horsepower. During a 48-hour endurance test, data on which are given herewith is tabulated from, the engine consumed an average of 5.58 lb. of gasoline and 0.025 lb. of oil per b.h.p. hr.

The low fuel and oil consumption as well as the great simplicity of design and all round sturdiness of the Union engine make of it a particularly desirable power plant for aircraft, where the question of engine weight is one of major importance provided it means reliability, and requires few adjustments for long runs at a stretch. That this engine will respond to these requirements may be seen from the Table of Characteristics of American Airplane, printed elsewhere in this issue, from which it appears that the Navy specifications for the latest two-engine scout patrol airplanes call for the 125 hp. Union engine. As the full speed, that is, the maximum endurance of these airplanes is 15 hr., and their operations often carry them far out to sea, the need for a power plant of the greatest reliability is obvious.

The principal features of the Union aircraft engine are the following:

Cylinders—The cylinders are of steel, with mounted head for valves and spark plugs, and the base flange integral with walls of cylinder. In test, these cylinders when held by base flange only, withstood a hydraulic test of over 2,200 lb. per sq. in., at a total pressure on the head and base flange of over 100 tons.

The cylinder water-jackets are of copper, with bonded gaskets. Upward thrust of cylinder is taken by chrome steel studs extending from base to overhead flanges.

Valves—The valves are of R. W. P. alloy. The stem guide is long, and water-cooled for its entire length. Valve operation, adjustable, outside, and of the left-hand, right and left-hand.

Valve Drive—The rocker arms are machined from solid chrome-nickel steel forgings, and heat-treated. Bearings are

2 1/2 in. diameter and 2 1/2 in. long. Shape of arms is such that oil leakage is prevented without the use of packing. Running wear of valve stem ends caused by point contact of adjusting screws, is eliminated by having fine contact on plane of point, length of contact between rocker end and valve stem being

3/16 in. Valve clearance is obtained by use of small cup cut into base of end of stem. Cup is held in center so that adjustment is positive.

Camshaft Bearings—The camshaft bearings in split line axially along the upper line of the camshaft, permitting easy removal of shaft. The positive bearing of camshaft bearing when clamping, a drive from each end of bearing leads down to main crankcase pump.

Camshaft Gears—All valve gears are of Mikado chrome nickel steel, heat-treated, and operate on cut back.

Pistons—The pistons are of Kovar chrome alloy. The piston length is 6 in., the piston pin bearing is 1 1/4 in. at 2 1/2 in. of connecting rods. The connecting rods are 2 1/2 in. stroke of Mikado chrome nickel steel, heat-treated.

Crankshaft—The crankshaft journals are 2 1/2 in. diameter by 3 1/2 in. long; crank pins are 2 1/2 in. diameter by 3 in. long. In addition to the seven main bearings, there is a bearing just outside of the thrust. Shaft is made of Mikado chrome nickel steel, heat-treated.

Thrust Bearings—The thrust thrust is taken by a two-way, self-aligning 36-P. bearing.

Connectors—The connecting is of aluminum alloy, and is all done in thorough cross welding, the side walls are of hollow box section. The stiffness of this construction is so great that the entire torque can be taken through the length of the arm without any signs of twisting or vibration, the arm during the test being held from twisting at the end supports to the screws and only.

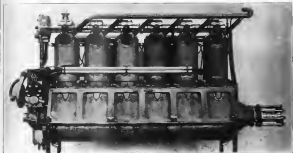
Lubrication—Oil is taken from the crankcase in a gas pump, mounted in a machined cut back and center (located where necessary), from which it flows back to a second gas pump which sends it under a pressure of 40 to 60 lb. to the crankshaft journals, through the shaft. In the lower cut back region and up into the piston pin. The holes in the piston for the piston pin being cooled, the oil seal pass between the air seal surface of the pin and its bearing, where it is carried to the

cylinder walls. The camshaft, camshaft bearings, cross, piston and valve stems are lubricated by oil fed from the oil pump through the engine. The normal lower feed lubrication is always open, even with no oil in the crankcase.

Ignition—Current is furnished by two entirely independent systems of either Delco or Duco make. Each cylinder is

Valve Timing—The valves may be quickly tested by means of adjusting marks located on flange between third bearing and gas plug.

Belts and Water—A. E. Standard belt and seal drive are used throughout excepting where extra long throws are necessary in its bearing cap and crank train units. Cast-iron



INTAKE SIDE OF THE 125 HP. UNION ENGINE

laid with two plugs, each plug being in close contact with a water-cooled wall for its entire circumference.

Engine Drive—The magneto are driven through combined driving gear and timing coupling in such a way that there is no backlash, no end or radial shock transmitted to the magneto bearings or camshaft shaft. Bearing four magnets holding-down screws allows the magnets to be readily with drive.

Pump Drive—The water-cooled water pump is driven on a pump shaft which is a member connected to that used for the magneto, the driving gear and coupling being in indestructible. The pump can be removed in withdrawing its oil holding-down bolts.

Intake Manifold—The intake manifold is of copper, all joints and flanges being brazed. Flanges are of steel, held in relative position by four bolts and only such. The vertical section shows expansion in water jacket.

Condenser Bearings—A small bearing is located opposite each crank beam to such a way that cold air entering one stream each crank beam, then having a decided cooling effect. Condensing through the bearings is maintained by a small part of the exhaust air being drawn through the main tank.

Exhaust Flange—The exhaust flange may be drawn off at will by means of special hooked nut between flange and main bearing.

into and rotors are used in place of lock washers. Bolts not so locked are divided in the head and locked by means of wire. A single end from the output of valves are run in two separate metal conduits, thus preventing trouble from oil-soaked wires.

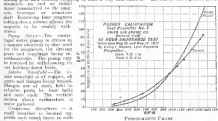
Magneto Drive—Magneto bearings are driven on, secured in such a way that a single end from the output of valves and rotors both magneto simultaneously adjust, and is provided in present construction change of two magneto.

Exhaust Safety Device—That part of air and exhaust from exhaust comes from one of the entire compartment of condenser double wall. Drains are provided in present construction change of two magneto.

The results of a 48 hr. endurance test conducted on May 18, 1935, under the supervision of Army and Navy inspectors in conformity with Army Specifications No. 2062 are shown in the chart and table printed herewith.

At the conclusion of this endurance test no appreciable wear was noted in the engine, or in adjustments when retorted, according to the official report, as following graph shows, adjusting gain to 0.015 in., and cleaning the distributor in case of carbon deposit. These adjustments were made between runs, each run being a one-hour test.

The results of this test being the fundamental features of the Union aircraft engine will be the



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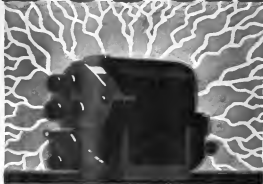
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